MiniBooNE Neutrinos at MINOS

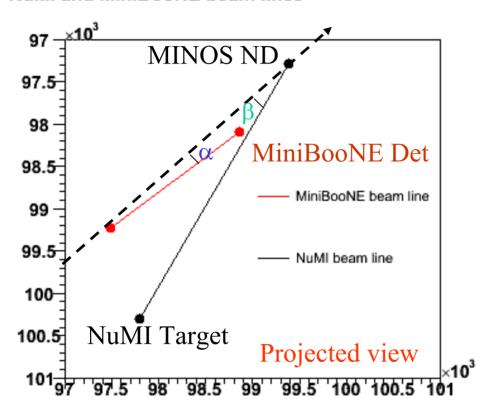
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H. J. Kang, S. Murgia, T. Yang, S. Wojcicki Stanford University

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Geometry

NuMI and MiniBooNE beam lines



 α : off-axis angle to the MINOS detector = 9.13 deg

β: incident angle of MiniBooNE neutrinos on MINOS ND = 16.9 deg

Incoming direction of MB neutrinos:

zenith: 83.5 deg

azimuth: 172.8 deg

Kinematics

> Two-body decay in Lab frame:

$$E_{v} = \gamma \frac{M^{2} - m^{2}}{2M} (1 + \beta \cos \theta)$$

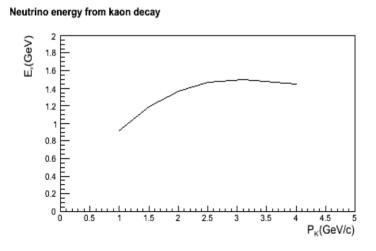
 E_{ν} : ν energy in Lab frame

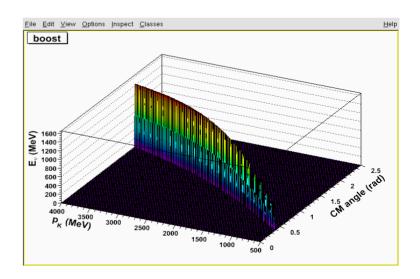
$$\tan \alpha = \frac{\sin \theta}{\gamma(\cos \theta + \beta)}$$

α: v angle in Lab frame

M: pion or kaon mass, m: muon mass, θ : ν angle in the CM frame

For $\alpha = 159 \pm 1.2$ mrad (9.13 deg), get highly monochromatic ν beam





- \triangleright Max E_v: 1.5 GeV for K, 189 MeV for π
- \triangleright v from π decays hard to separate from noise

What can we do with MB v's?

- > Highly monoenergetic v beam:
 - Determine the energy scale
 - Better signal/background discrimination for v_e
 - Study cross sections for different interaction channels
 - Anomalous v_e production
- \triangleright For now, ν_{μ} CC only

Selection

- Search for MB neutrinos in MINOS ND cosmics data stream: between NuMI spills, data is recorded if at least 10 planes have a hit above ~1/3 pe. (4 out of 5 consecutive planes as of Dec 05)
- Aug, Sep, Oct 05 MINOS ND data has been processed so far

Timing vs Cos(angle)

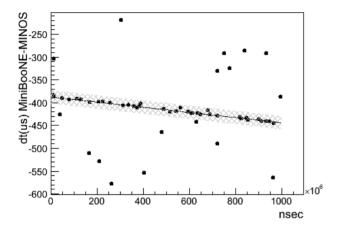
- Select events with:
 - At least a track with contained vertex

(within 1 m radius around beam direction and 0.5 m to 6 m into detector)

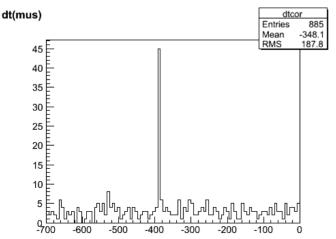
Thanks to Steve Brice for providing the MiniBooNE spill timestamps (ACNET)

Selection - contd

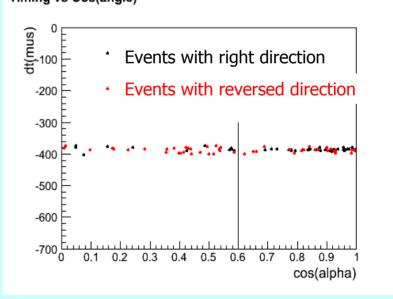
- Clean up the sample by selecting tracks loosely pointing back to the MiniBooNE target $(\cos(\alpha)>0.6)$
- Correct for difference in nsec counting between MB and MINOS:



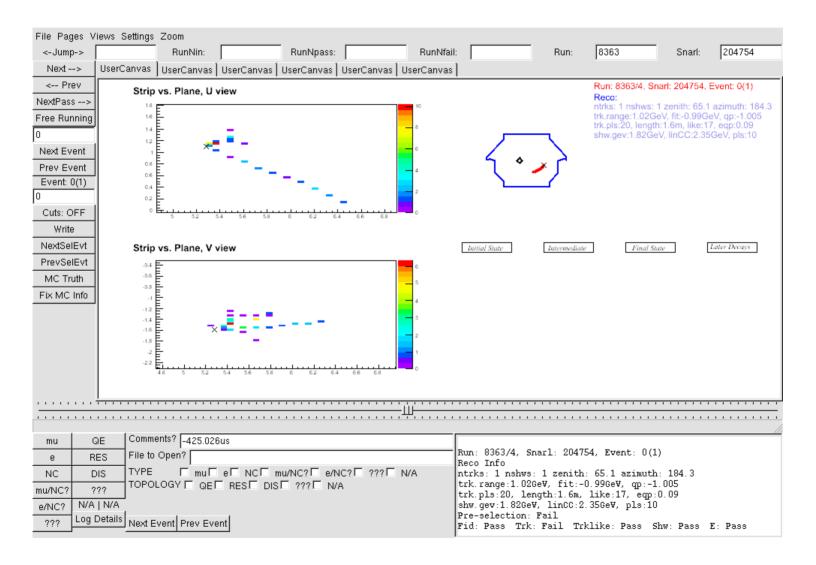
• Narrower **dt** distribution after correcting for time mismatch:



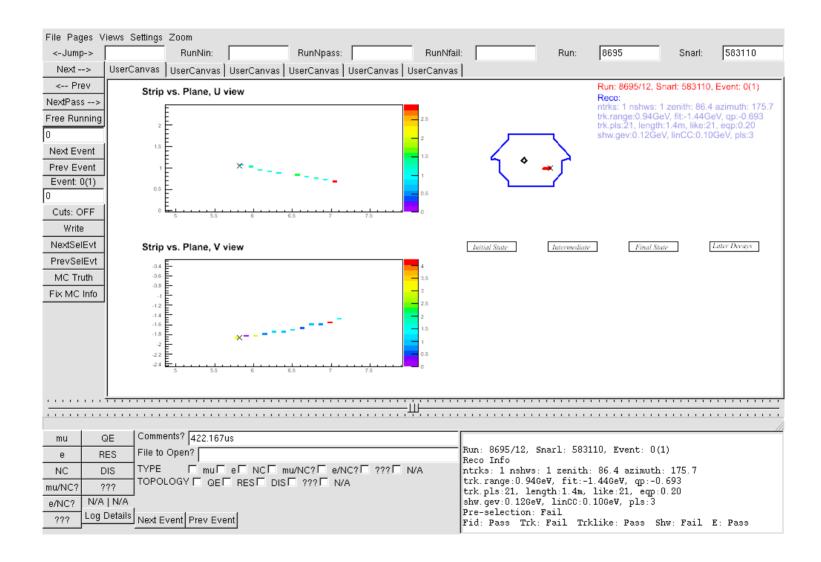




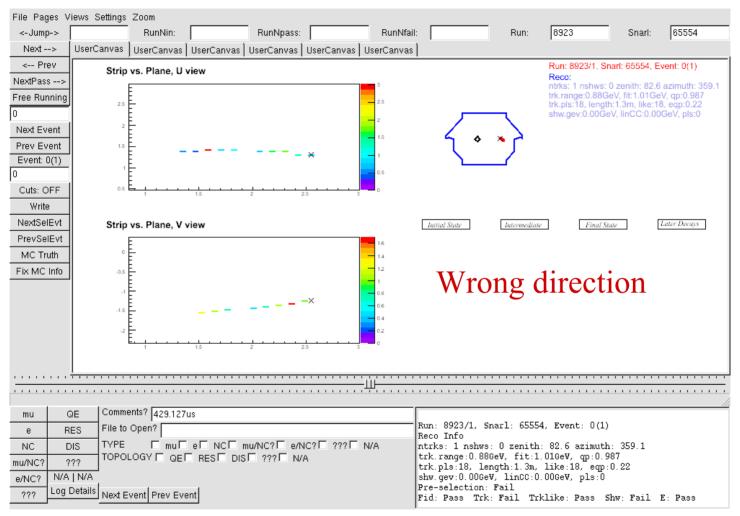
Event 1.



Event 2.

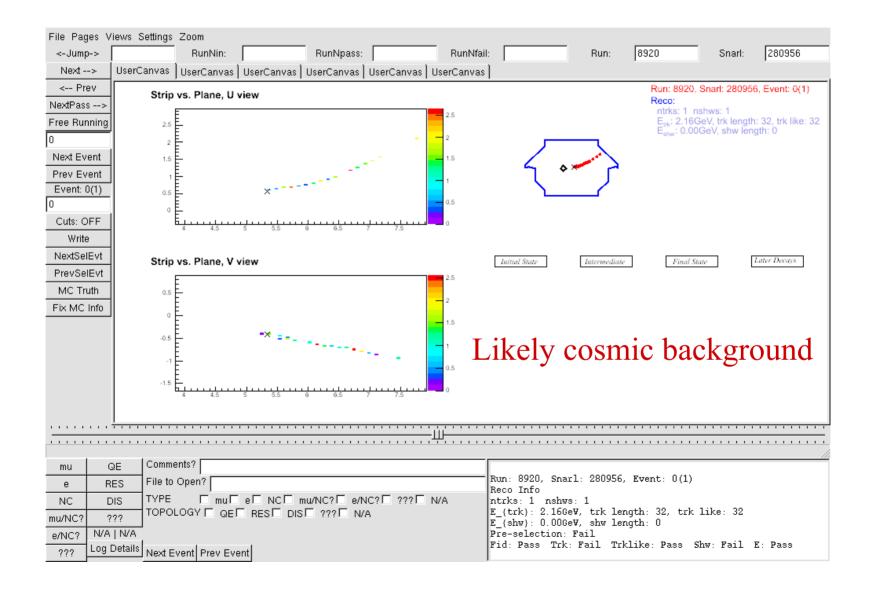


Event 3.



- •Although the track appears to be coming from the North (MB ν are from the South), the timing of this event is consistent with the MB spill.
- •This type of event is classified as a MB ν . Studies to improve the direction finding algorithm are ongoing.

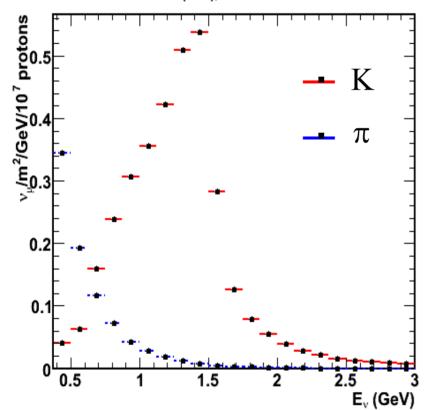
Event 4.



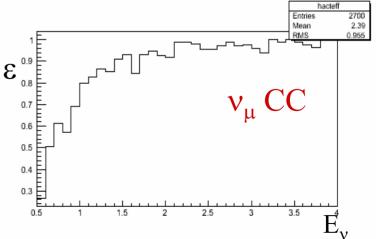
MC Simulation

• PBEAM simulation of ν_{μ} flux from MB target at ND:

FLUX from K+ vs NU ENERGY (GeV), Z= 51.+768. m



- ν_{μ} (NC and CC) and ν_{e} interactions in the MINOS ND are simulated assuming the incoming MB direction.
- Events are generated with energy between 0.1 GeV and 4 GeV and weighted with the PBEAM flux.
- The MC is normalized to the MB POT and has to pass the online trigger requirement and offline selection as the data.
- MC trigger efficiency for 10 planes activity:



MC – Data Comparison

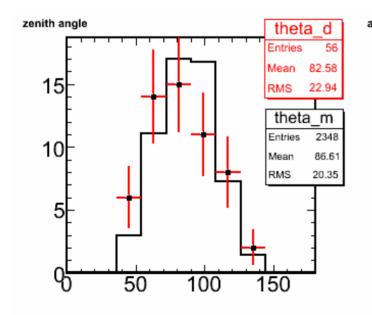
 \triangleright Event rate for v_{μ} CC for 3 months:

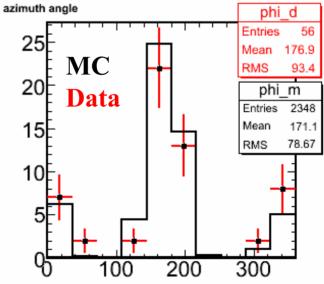
Data: 56

MC: 56.5

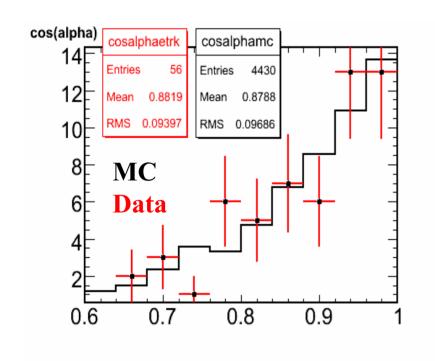
➤ No background subtraction in data! Under study.

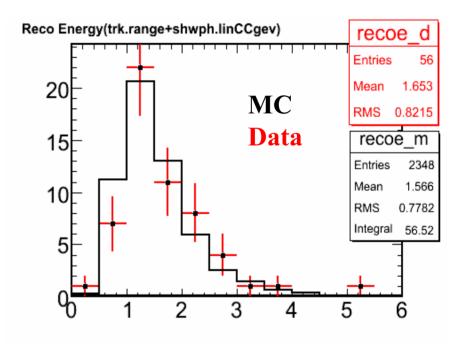
Rates (data)	Aug	Sep	Oct
POT (E19)	1.75	1.5	2.76
ν_{μ} CC	15	12	29





MC – Data Comparison





- ➤ Good agreement between data and MC angular distributions
- > Need more statistics

Conclusions/Ongoing work

- We have searched for MiniBooNE neutrinos in the MINOS ND
- By applying loose track direction, containement requirements and timing consistent with the MiniBooNE spills, we find $56 v_{\mu} CC$ candidates for 3 months (Aug-Oct 05) of data taking, in good agreement with the MC prediction of 56.5 events.
- We are processing the remaining data from 2005.
- We plan to improve the flux modeling by including the MiniBooNE beam fluxes instead of PBEAM (PBEAM flux ~ 30% larger)
- We are working on improving the direction finding algorithm and cosmic background rejection.
- Hardware to trigger the ND readout on the MiniBooNE spill signal is under development.